

REMARKS

In the patent application, claims 10-17 are pending. In the Office Action, all pending claims are rejected.

At section 4, claims 11, 14 and 15 are objected to. Applicant has canceled claims 11, 14 and 15.

At section 5, claims 10-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner states that the terms “a first cutting direction”, “a second cutting direction” and “movement means” are vague. Applicant has canceled claims 10 - 17 and substituted claims 18-22 therefor. In new claim 18, the first and second cutting directions are replaced by vertical and horizontal cutting direction, and “movement means (23, 24)” in the horizontal cutting device (16) are replaced by a transmission mechanism (23, 24) operatively connected to the first and second pulleys (43, 47). Likewise, the transmission mechanism (23’, 24’) in the vertical cutting device (17) are operatively connected to the first and second pulleys (43’, 47’).

Applicant believes that the support for new claims 18-22 can be found in the specification and the drawings. No new matter has been introduced by way of amendment.

At section 7, claims 10-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Neuhauser et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 2,654,404, hereafter referred to as *Neuhauser*) in view of *Criner* (U.S. Patent No. 2,185,835). Applicant has canceled claims 10-17.

It is respectfully submitted that neither the cited *Neuhauser* reference nor the cited *Criner* reference shows the structural aspect of claim 18. Claims 18-22 are clearly distinguishable over the cited *Neuhauser* and *Criner* references.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has canceled claims 10-17 and added new claims 18-22. New claims 18-22 are allowable over the cited references. Early allowance of claims 18-22 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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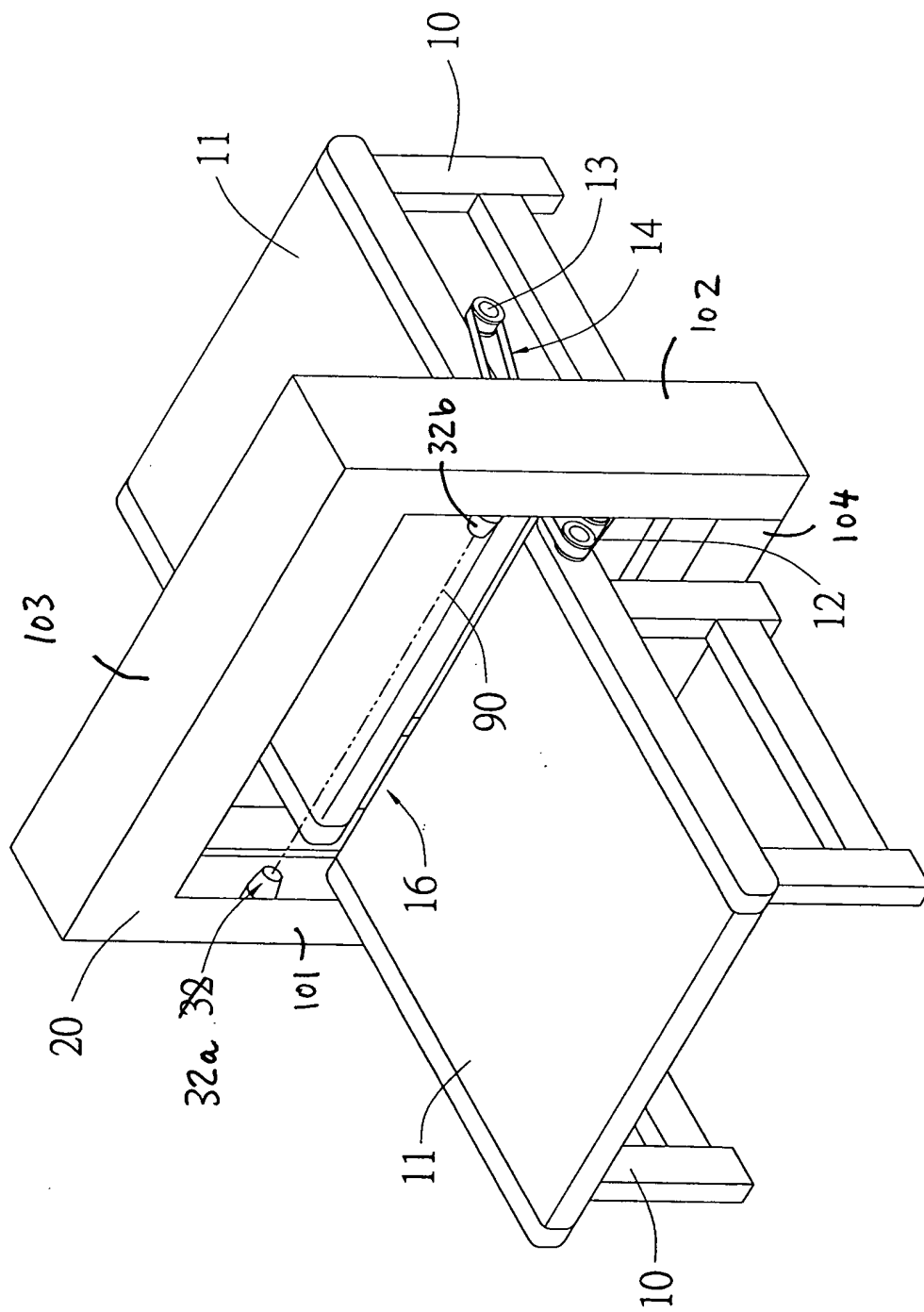
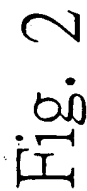
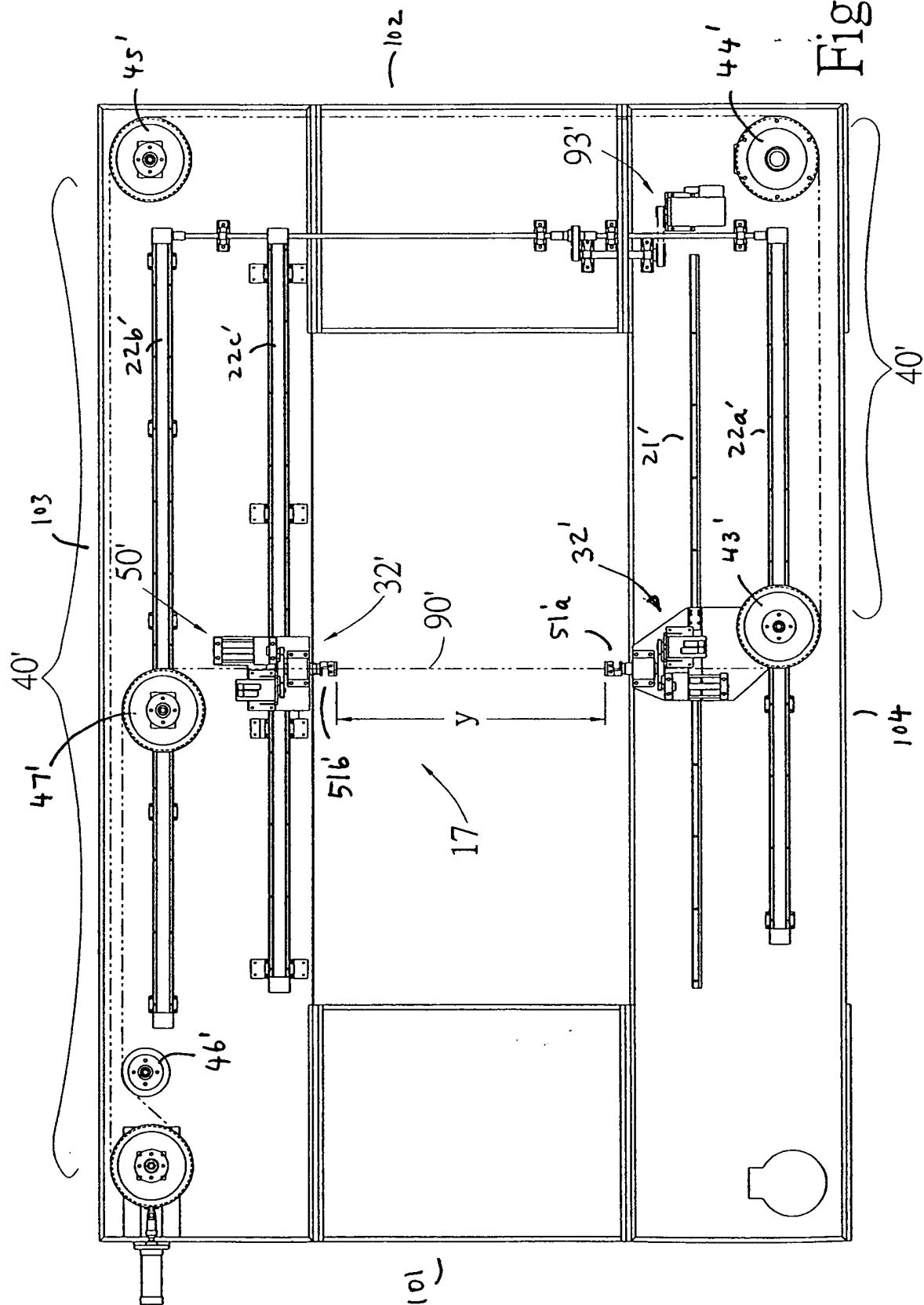


Fig. 1

Fig. 2



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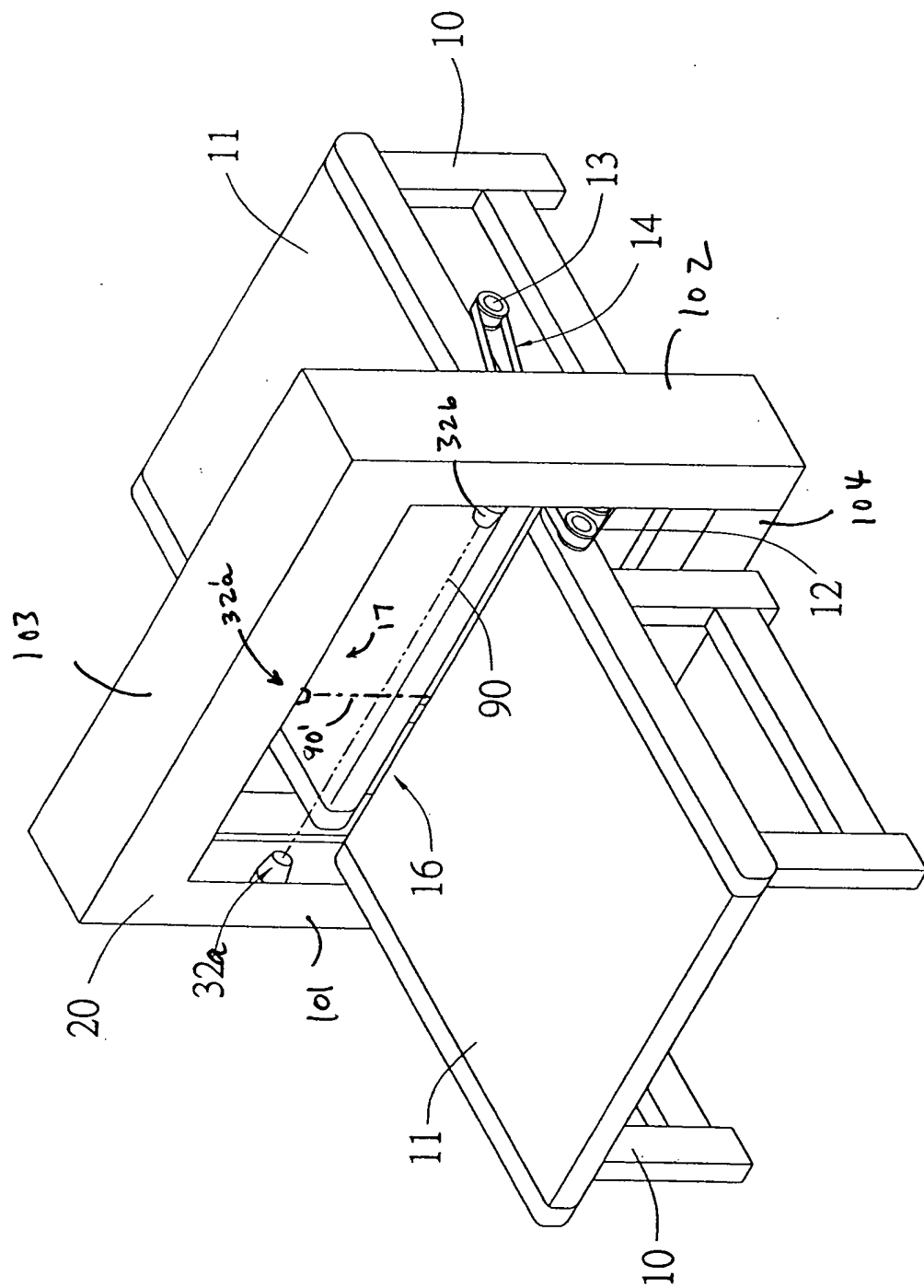


Fig. 9